



# CALPEEK

## CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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### **RECALL MADNESS: RESULTS & ANALYSIS.**

Editor's note: It's finally over – thankfully – and 10 months into his second term as Calif.'s 37<sup>th</sup> governor, Gray Davis has been recalled and replaced with actor-turned-politician Arnold Schwarzenegger. Here's our update, analysis and commentary. There are still many absentee and provisional ballots remaining, but sources say that won't change the results. Next week: *Calpeek's Winners & Losers...*

☑ **Recall Election Part I** – With 99% of all the precincts reporting, the vote to recall Gov. Gray Davis(D) was **55.2% YES vs. 44.8% NO** (keep him). In order for Davis to have kept his job, he needed **big** wins in some of the key Demo counties. While S.F. Co. delivered big time with 80.4% NO, L.A. Co. split almost even: 49% YES vs. 51% NO. Sacramento Co., a county which is a **bellwether** for predicting the outcome of Statewide elections, went **59.3% YES** on recall vs. **40.7% NO**. Lots of State & Federal workers live in Sacto so one has to wonder about labor's ability to deliver the vote. Exit polling indicates Davis lost at least **25%** of the Demo vote. And that's what killed him...

☑ **Recall Replacement Election Part II** – It really was not much of a contest as Gov.-elect Schwarzenegger won rather handily over Demo Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante and GOP State Sen. Tom McClintock. Schwarzenegger got **48.5% vs. 31.8%** for Bustamante and **13.4%** for McC. Green Party candidate Peter Camejo got **2.8%**...

☑ **Voter Turnout** – As *Calpeek* hit deadline, with 99% of the vote counted, the turnout stood at **8,281,752** or about **53.8%**. Most sources expect that turnout will move up to around **55-57%** when all the A/Vs and provisionals are finally counted. In raw numbers, some think there could be another **1 million uncounted ballots**. FYI: *Calpeek* predicted a **58%** turnout in last week's issue...

☑ **Humpty-Dumpty Davis** – Webster's Dictionary defines humpty-dumpty as *something that once broken is impossible to put back together*. All those Demos who ventured to Calif. (Clinton, Gore, Kerry, Gephardt, Dean, etc. - all the King's horses and all the King's men) couldn't

do a thing to save Davis. He was toast the day that U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa decided to fund the recall. And sources think Davis knew he was in deep trouble from the get go. The L.A. Times exit poll said **64%** of those voting blamed Davis for mismanaging the State. Another **31%** cited Davis' handling of the energy crisis as a reason why they voted to boot him. And yet another **22%** cited the budget crisis as why they voted to dump the governor...

... But there were **other factors** working against Davis. Voters didn't like the choice they faced in the 2002 election and the recall was the best way to fix that situation. Republicans were especially POed at Davis for interfering in the GOP primary election, allowing the weakest GOP candidate, Bill Simon, to win. Some feel that had Davis left it alone, former L.A. Mayor Dick Riordan would have won the primary and then perhaps defeated Davis in the general election. That's just speculation. And Davis left himself open to criticism with what seemed like non-stop fundraising and the perception that in order to get access, one had to make a contribution. Put another way, voters just didn't like the guy...

... Finally, in *Calpeek's* opinion, Davis' spin operation (media/communications) was horrible. This was especially true during the energy crisis (Davis should have been hitting Enron and FERC on a daily basis). As for the 2003 budget crisis, there was a big \$17 billion drop in revenue, but *Team Davis* rarely mentioned this and instead allowed the GOP to bash Davis as a massive spender. The spinning during the first 15 months (1999-2000) was focused like a laser on education. Then, from about mid-2000 on, the message and spin was unfocused...

☑ **The Ballot Propositions** – Both Prop. 53 (infrastructure funding) and Prop. 54 (Racial Privacy Initiative) lost by almost the same margin: **36% YES vs. 64% NO**. Prop. 53 failed to win any of Calif.'s 58 counties. Prop. 54 won in four No. Calif. counties (Placer, Sutter, Lassen and El Dorado). RPI sponsor Ward Connelly said in an interview with the S.F. Chron that if Prop. 54 failed on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> he'd correct the flaws which opponents used to bash his initiative

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and try again in a few years...

☒ **Gov. Elect-Arnold** – Schwarzenegger's campaign was nearly perfect – not too much exposure, not too specific on issues and lots of Hollywood splash. Gropegate was the one negative, but Schwarzenegger's admission and apology seemed to sit well with voters. The lateness of the *L.A. Times* article (Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>) didn't go over well with voters. It looked like a smear job. But there is a saying in politics: *one man's smear is another man's fact sheet*. We'll see if Gropegate has legs...

☒ **Bustamante's Future** – The LG's consultant, Richie Ross, thinks Cruz has a bright future. But Calpeek sources think the jury is still out on that question. He sure didn't seem ready for prime time. On the other hand, the LG's efforts against Prop. 54 may help him regain some of his lost luster...

☒ **McClintock's Future** – There's no reason to think State Sen. Tom McClintock (R-Camarillo) won't be reelected next year. And with all those many small donations he received, not only from Calif. but from around the U.S., McC now has one of the better direct mail lists in the U.S. He'll probably put it to good use trying to kill the VLF and SB 60. A brief observation: all that worry that McC would split the GOP vote and allow Bustamante to slip in didn't happen. In fact, McC's numbers dropped a little. He was at 15-18% in several polls. More analysis next week. Stay tuned...

#### **CAMPAIGN 2003: S.F. DA's RACE BEGINS TO HEAT UP.**

Editor's note: Although the Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> recall has drowned out almost all news concerning the upcoming Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> municipal election in San Francisco, some news has managed to make a little ink. The DA's race is now back on the front burner after the City's Ethics Commission fined Kamala Harris a huge hunk for spending way above the \$211,000 spending cap she agreed to follow. Here's our brief analysis...

...For those Calpeek readers in places other than S.F., incumbent S.F. Co. DA Terence Hallinan has been in political hot water ever since the so-called Fajitagate case blew up in his face. No reason to rehash that whole thing, but grand jury indictments against the top ranking SFPD command staff were tossed out by a judge. The incident which triggered the grand jury indictments took place in November of last year when three S.F. off duty cops roughed up two men. One of the cops was the son of Asst. Chief Alex Fagan Sr. Hallinan went after the entire SFPD command structure. When the Fajitagate case first surfaced, some thought it might be a career ender for the incumbent

DA. Hallinan's two chief rivals are Bill Fazio, who has run against Hallinan before; and Kamala Harris, a former deputy DA who now works for the City Attorney. Fazio in particular, really bashed and blasted Hallinan's handling of the case...

...Polling in the DA's race (conducted for Harris by pollster David Binder) in early March of 2003 showed Hallinan leading his rivals: Hallinan 38%, Fazio 27% and Harris in single digits at 7%. A much newer Binder survey (September) shows Hallinan still leading, but only at 26%, followed by Fazio at 22%, with Harris now in double-digits at 14%. There is a big undecided in this newest survey...

...Back to Harris. While she gained in this newest Binder poll, it was taken before the \$34,000 fine by the Ethics Commission. The fine is not good news, but at least she has taken responsibility and admitted she made a mistake. She spent about \$90,000 more than the \$211,000 cap, after initially promising to stay within the limit. That promise was printed in the City's Voter Information Pamphlet. As part of her agreement with the Ethics Comm., Harris has to buy ads in S.F. daily and weekly publications to tell voters she's not going to abide by the spending limit. Hallinan and Fazio have both bashed Harris. The Harris violation is good news for Hallinan, because it diverts attention away from Fajitagate. Fazio's strategy is to keep Fajitagate alive so that Hallinan is on the defensive...

...Most sources agree there will be a Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> runoff, but all bets are off on the order of finish. Does Harris still have a shot at making the runoff? Maybe. Although she has some good endorsements, both Hallinan and Fazio will beat up on Harris for her close association with S.F. Mayor Willie Brown – not the most popular figure these days in S.F. He's on her endorsement list, but is trying to keep his head down. Stay tuned...

#### **CAMPAIGN 2004: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.**

Editor's note: Three(3) more initiatives have entered circulation, trying to collect enough signatures to make the November 2004 ballot. There are 25 initiatives + 1 referendum in circulation, with 8 pending at the AG's office. Here's our update & analysis...

◆ **Children's Hospital Projects. Grant Program. Bond Act.** This initiative authorizes \$750 million in general obligation bonds to fund grant-eligible children's hospitals. 20% of the bonds shall be available for grants to certain UC general acute care hospitals, who treat children with heart defects, sickle cell anemia, leukemia and other serious illnesses. Deadline for collecting

373,816 signatures is Mar. 1, 2004. The proponent is Susan Maddox (916)442-7757...

♦ **Limits on Class Size. Constitutional Amendment.** Beginning in 2012, this amendment orders the CA Legislature to ensure that in public schools the number of kids per class does not exceed 15 in K-3; 20 in 4-8; 25 in grades 9-12. And this measure also requires the Legislature to begin reducing class size in 2005-06 by at least 2 students per year until the size requirements are achieved. Cost for the reduction shall be the responsibility of the State, not local school districts. 598,105 signatures are needed by Mar. 1, 2004. The proponent is Peter Mathews (562) 433-9242...

♦ **Sexual Orientation, Status, Conduct or Relationships. Constitutional Amendment.** Amends the Calif. Constitution to repeal, and to prohibit the enforcement or enactment of, all state laws and policies providing protected status, quota preference or other preferential treatment to homosexual, bisexual, transsexual or transvestite orientation, status, conduct or relationships. The proponent is Lee W. Olson of Huntington Beach. He must collect 598,105 signatures by Mar. 1, 2004 to qualify...

...FYI: the above initiative is different than this referendum by State Sen. William "Pete" Knight(R-Palmdale) and Assemblyman Ray Haynes(R-Murietta) to overturn AB 205 by Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg(D-L.A.). AB 205 adds new rights and responsibilities for domestic partners. The referendum was given the green light to begin circulating on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> and needs 373,816 signatures by a Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> deadline to qualify for the March 2004 primary ballot. Stay tuned...

**PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS: DEMO FIELD DOWN TO 9.**  
Editor's note: For a short time, the Demo field of presidential candidates hit 10, but as of 10/6/03 it's once again back to nine as U.S. Sen. Bob Graham of Florida has pulled the plug on his campaign. Here's our update & analysis...

...Graham's announcement had been expected for some time. He was getting no more than 1% in recent Calif. surveys (Field & PPIC) and had no big name endorsements here in Calif. No word on if he'll seek reelection in Florida in 2004...

...The polling in Calif. shows the presidential sweepstakes this way. Both polls were taken in September:

|                   | Field | PPIC             |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|
| Howard Dean       | 23%   | 21%              |
| Joe Lieberman     | 15%   | 12%              |
| John Kerry        | 11%   | 11%              |
| Dick Gephardt     | 8%    | 7%               |
| Dennis Kucinich   | 1%    | 4%               |
| Wesley Clark      | 4%    | 3% (volunteered) |
| John Edwards      | 1%    | 2%               |
| Carol Braun       | 4%    | 1%               |
| Bob Graham        | 1%    | 1%               |
| Al Sharpton       | 3%    | -0-              |
| Don't Know        | 29%   | 33%              |
| None/someone else |       | 5%               |

...Nationally, newcomer Wesley Clark pulled 14% in a recent Newsweek poll, with former Vt. Gov. Howard Dean in 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12%, with U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman of Ct. also at 12% and U.S. Sen. John Kerry of MA at 10%. U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri was at 8%...

...The first test for these Demos is the Iowa Caucus on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. A new survey by Gephardt (by Westhill Partners, Sept. 22-23 among 500 likely Iowa Demos) shows it this way: Gephardt 24%, Dean 17%, Kerry 13%, Edwards 7%, Clark 6%, Lieberman 4% - among the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tier candidates. It's a critical test for Gephardt. On Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> the Demos face off in New Hampshire...

...Back to Calif. In the endorsement game, it looks like this: Lieberman: Lt. Gov. Bustamante; U.S. Rep. Cardoza, Dooley & Tauscher. Kerry: U.S. Sen. Feinstein; Controller Westly; State Treas. Angelides and U.S. Rep. McDonald. Dean: U.S. Reps. Lofgren & Filner + 36 members of the Calif. Legislature. Gephardt: U.S. Reps. Pelosi, Berman, Matsui, Schiff & Capps. Stay tuned...

**CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS**

|            |                                                                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 14    | S.F. Mayor's debate, 7-8 p.m. KPIX-TV and KCBS-AM radio.                                                  |
| Oct. 14-17 | Council of State Govts.-West Western Legislative Academy, Colorado Springs. Info @ (916)553-4423.         |
| Nov. 4     | S.F. Muni Election + other cities                                                                         |
| Nov. 6     | Pat Brown Inst.'s 11 <sup>th</sup> annual CA Policy Issues Conf., Wilshire Grand Hotel, L.A.              |
| Nov. 6     | Calif. Coalition on Workers' Comp(CCWC) 2003 Fall Legislative Conf., Hollywood, CA Info at (916)441-4111. |
| Nov. 7     | VICA's 15 <sup>th</sup> annual Business Forecast Conf., Warner Center Marriott Hotel.                     |
| Nov. 13    | SCAG Regional Economic forecast conf., Newport Beach.                                                     |
| Nov. 15-18 | IAPC – Prague, Czech Republic                                                                             |



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**CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.**

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **Schwarzenegger's Transition Team** – It will be led by U.S. Rep. David Dreier(R-Covina), but be assured that GOP Senate Leader Jim Brulte won't be left out of the mix. Brulte is lending his COS – Jim Richardson – to the transition team...

■ **VLF Update** – It may be unpopular, but CA's vehicle license fee is used by some counties (Orange Co. being the prime example) to pay off bonds. Local cities use the VLF to pay for public safety. In Washington State, voters recently passed an initiative junking their form of VLF and replacing it with a \$30 tab fee. The Washington State Supreme Court is about ready to hand down a decision on a case where the trial court declared the initiative to be unconstitutional because it impaired county bond obligations...

■ **Final Registration Figures** – CA SOS Kevin Shelley has released final voter registration numbers, as of 9/22/03. Here's how it looks: Democrats 43.68%, GOP 35.30%, Decline to State 16.04%, AIP 1.94%, Green 1.08%, Libertarian .58%, Peace & Freedom .51%, and Natural Law .24%. In raw numbers it's Demo 6,718,111 vs. GOP at 5,429,356. Total number of registered voters is now 15,380,536...

■ **San Diego City Attorney's Race** – There are four contenders to replace Casey Gwinn as San Diego's City Attorney. The field includes former Demo Assemblyman Howard Wayne; attorney Mike Aguirre; Asst. City Atty. Deborah Berger; and Deputy City Atty. Leslie Devaney. Aguirre and Wayne are both fairly well known to voters, having run for office before. In a recent straw poll at the Sierra Club's City Attorney's Forum (debate), Aguirre came out on top with 49%, followed by Berger at 23%, Wayne at 11% and Devaney with 8%. 9% were undecided. The primary will take place in March of 2004...

**CALPEEK's NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.**

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Correction from last week. In noting the recent death of the former Siskiyou Co. Sheriff, we listed the wrong name: it should have been Charles Byrd...

● L.A. Council Pres. Alex Padilla has named L.A. Deputy Mayor Felipe Fuentes has his COS. Fuentes replaces Monique Kagan...

● Congratulations to newly weds Nathan Fletcher and Mindy Tucker. Fletcher is U.S. Rep. Cunningham's district director and Tucker currently serves in Calif. on the Bush-Cheney '04 team. They will reside in San Diego...

● U.S. Rep. Daine E. Watson(D-L.A.) has been appointed to the DNC by Demo Party Chair Terry McAuliffe...

● Frank Schubert, who remained with Porter Novelli after the Goddard/Claussen split, has now left PN to form Frank Schubert Public Affairs. Going with Schubert is Sr. VP Richard Wiebe. Schubert P/A is at 1215 "K" Street, Ste. 2150, Sacto 95814 (916)448-4234...

● Burson-Marsteller has named Alan Arkatov to the new post of President/CEO of its So. Calif. region. He will be based in B-M's L.A. office. Bill Kahrl has been named head of B-M's Sacto office...

● Andrew Russo's Paramount Communications has opened a Sacramento office at 980 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 1600, Sacto 95814 (916)449-9640...

**CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK**

● Senator Dianne Feinstein is seeking a creative speechwriter and communications person. Media or public relations experience required. Send resume, cover letter, samples of speeches and other writing to speechwriter2004@yahoo.com or fax (202) 228-4460. No calls please.

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